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Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSA-01 DODE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00
ERDA-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 /044 W
----------181629 096370 /44
R 181551Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9881

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FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT PARIS DATED 18 FEB. 1977 FROM
NICE RPTD FOR YOUR ACTION/INFO

QUOTE:
NICE 073

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ESTC MN FR
SUBJECT: PRE-LICENSING CHECK: IDEA S.A. 3, AVENUE
ST-CHARLES, P.O. BOX 82, MONTE-CARLO, MONACO

REF: STATE 1170

1. COMMERCIAL ASSISTANT VISITED SUBJECT COMPANY ON
FEBRUARY 15 AND WAS RECEIVED BY MR. BIBIKOFF, VICE-
PRESIDENT. MR. BIBIKOFF WAS NOT AT ALL RELUCTANT TO
DISCUSS KASPER TRANSACTION AND SHOWED WITHOUT ANY
DIFFICULTY THE PURCHASE ORDERS CONCERNING DYE BONDERS,
WIRE BONDERS, ACCESSORIES, PARTS AND TOOLING FOR THE
RESPECTIVE EQUIPMENT.

2. WHEN REQUESTED TO DISCUSS LETTERS OF CREDIT, MR.
BIBIKOFF EXPLAINED THAT THESE LETTERS OF CREDIT WILL
BE OPENED UNDER THE END-USER'S NAME: DIGITAL S.A., AS
SOON AS EXPORT LICENSES AUTHORIZED. HE ALSO EXPLAINED
THAT THIS EQUIPMENT WILL BE INSTALLED IN A PLANT TO
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BE CREATED WITH THE PURPOSE OF MANUFACTURING WATCH
MODULES. WHEN REQUESTED TO SHOW PROOF THAT THE
ORDERED EQUIPMENT WILL IN FACT BE INSTALLED IN A PLANT
ANSWERING TO PROFILE OF CONDITIONS, HE POINTED OUT THAT
KASPER WILL BEGIN MANUFACTURING THE EQUIPMENT ORDERED
WHEN THEY ARE SURE THAT EXPORT LICENSE IS ISSUED.
THEN IT WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY NINE TO TEN MONTHS

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BETWEEN MANUFACTURING AND DELIVERY AND THAT, AT THE SAME TIME, THE END-USER WILL START CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANT WHEN THEY GET THE EXPORT LICENSE AND CONSE-QUENTLY ARE SURE OF GETTING THE EQUIPMENT.

3. COMMERCIAL ASSISTANT THEN POINTED OUT THAT IF IT IS LOGICAL TO POSTPONE CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT UNTIL EXPORT LICENSE IS ISSUED, IT WOULD BE ALSO LOGICAL TO BE ALREADY IN POSSESSION OF A STUDY CONCERNING THE LOCATION AND THE CONDITIONS OF INSTALLATION OF THIS PLANT. MR. BIBIKOFF WAS UNABLE TO SHOW ANY CONCRETE PROOF OF SUCH A PROJECT. HE STATED THAT HE IS A TECHNICIAN AND THAT HE IS NOT INVOLVED IN THE FACTORY CONSTRUCTION. HE STATED THAT THE END-USER DIGITAL S.A. WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PROJECT AND THAT HE, BIBIKOFF, WAS ONLY REQUESTED TO INSTALL THE EQUIPMENT ONCE THE FACTORY IS BUILT. THE ONLY INFORMATION HE COULD GIVE WAS THAT, ACCORDING TO WHAT HE HAS BEEN TOLD, DIGITAL S.A. HAS PURCHASED LAND IN THE INDUST-RIAL ZONE OF CARROS. THE LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, UPON REQUEST BY CONSULATE REPORTED THAT NO PURCHASE OF LAND HAS BEEN EFFECTED UNDER THE NAME OF DIGITAL S.A NOR UNDER THE NAME OF MR. MAURICE SESOLIS, DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL S.A., AN ELECTRONIC WATCH RETAIL OUTLET LOCATED 20, RUE MARECHAL JOFFRE IN NICE.

4. QUESTIONED ABOUT THE SOURCE OF FUNDS RE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, MR. BIBIKOFF STATED, AGAIN ACCORDING TO WHAT HE HAS BEEN TOLD, THAT MR. MARICE SESOLIS
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REPRESENTS A GROUP OF EUROPEAN DISTRIBUTORS OF ELECTRONIC WATCHES, MAINLY IN ITALY, FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND, WHO DECIDED TO INVEST IN THIS PLANT WHICH SHOULD PRODUCE ALL OF THE MAJOR COMPONENTS ENTERING INTO THE FINISHED MODULES.

5. UNFORTUNATELY, MR. SESOLIS IS UNAVAILABLE AT THE PRESENT TIME DUE TO TRAVELS ABROAD. A TENTATIVE APPOINTMENT HAS BEEN MADE FOR FEBRUARY 17 THROUGH HIS SECRETARY.

6. CONSULATE HAS BEEN GIVEN INFORMATION ON AN AMERIC-AN MULTINATIONAL GROUP "DIGITAL EQUIPEMENT" WHICH IS PRESENTLY STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A

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BRANCH OF THEIR COMPUTER SPECIAL SYSTEMS IN THIS AREA.
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF DIGITAL EQUIPMENT FRANCE IS
MR. SOURNAC WHOSE HEAD OFFICE IN FRANCE IS LOCATED AT
SAINT-RINEL, CENTRE FILIC, CEDEX L225, 94533 RUNGIS.
ACCORDING TO MR. BIBIKOFF, THE TWO COMPANIES DIGITAL
S.A. AND DIGITAL EQUIPMENT HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO
RELATIONSHIP.

7. COMMENTS: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT, ACCORDING TO
PARAGRAPHS 7 AND 8 OF REFTEL, NONE OF THE CONDITIONS
REQUIRED EXIST AND THAT NO FIRM PROJECT APPEARS TO BE
IN PROGRESS, THAT NO CONSTRUCTION PERMIT HAS BEEN
APPLIED FOR AND THAT NO GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORIZATION HAS
BEEN REQUESTED THROUGH THE PREFECTURE OF THE ALPES-
MARITIMES. HOWEVER, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH A
PLANT, MR. BIBIKOFF INSISTED ON THE FACT THAT AS HE
WAS REQUESTED BY DIGITAL S.A. TO INSTALL THE EQUIPMENT
WHEN RECEIVED AND TO START THE OPERATION, HE HAS NO
REASON TO DOUBT THE EVENTUAL EXISTENCE OF ADEQUATE
MANUFACTURING FACILITIES.

8. INFORMATION ON DIGITAL S.A. FOLLOWS ASAP.
MURPHY UNQUOTE.
HARLON
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: TRANSACTION CHECKS, EXPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770058-1173
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Line Count: 168
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EB
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 1170
Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3281033
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRE-LICENSING CHECK: IDEA S.A. 3, AVENUE ST-CHARLES, P.O. BOX 82, MONTE-CARLO, MONACO
TAGS: ESTC, MN, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/75987cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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